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Serial No. 09/763,903
GROUP 1700

REMARKS

An Office Action was mailed in the above-referenced application on 3 April 2003. The instant Remarks are intended as responsive to the various objections and rejections set forth in that Action.

OBJECTION TO THE DRAWINGS:

Responsive to the request of the Examiner, applicant encloses herewith a sheet of formal drawings which incorporate the changes approved by the Examiner in his Action of 3 April 2003. In view of this submission, it would appear that the Examiner's requirements in this regard have been satisfied.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. 102:

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 USC 102 over Spencer. In paragraph 3 of his Action, the Examiner indicated that claims 2-19 would be allowable provided that they were rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of their respective base claims and any intervening claims. Responsive to this indication, applicant has amended claim 1 to include the limitations of claim 2. It follows that claim 1, as amended, is essentially claim 2 rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of its base claim, namely claim 1. In view of this amendment, applicant respectfully submits that the rejection of claim 1 over Spencer has been obviated.

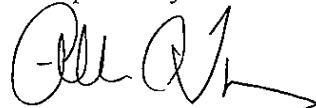
Similarly, claims 4, 7, and 12 have all been rewritten to include all of the limitations of their base claim, namely claim 1. There were no intervening claims intermediate claims 4, 7, and 12 and their respective base claim. It follows that claims 4, 7, and 12 have now been rewritten to include all of the limitations of their respective base claim. In view of the indications of the Examiner, claims 4, 7, and 12 should now be in condition for allowance.

Claims 3, 5, 6, 8-11 and 13-19 all depend from either claim 1, 4, 7, or 12. In view of their dependency from an allowable claim and further in view of the additional subject matter contained therein, applicant respectfully submits that these claims should also now be condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION:

In view of the present amendments to the application and the remarks set forth above, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of its application.

Respectfully submitted,



Allen C. Turner
Registration No. 33,041 for
Laurence B. Bond
Registration No. 30,549
Attorney for Applicant(s)
TRASKBRITT
P.O. Box 2550
Salt Lake City, Utah 84110-2550
Telephone: 801-532-1922

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LBB/csw

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